U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney District of Idaho

Mailing Address: Street Address:

First Interstate Center

P. O. Box 32

877 W. Main, Ste 201 Boise, ID 83707 Boise, ID 83702

Cv Div Fax: 208/334-1414 Cr Div Fax: 208/334-1413

Comm: 208/334-1211

Main Fax: 208/334-9375

DTF Div Fax: 208/334-9018

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: THOMAS E. MOSS

United States Attorney TERRY L. DERDEN

First Assistant U. S. Attorney

MARC HAWS

Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney

WENDY J. OLSON Assistant U.S. Attorney

Boise, Idaho (208) 334-1211

COEUR D'ALENE DENTIST CHARGED IN MEDICAID FRAUD SCHEME

A federal grand jury in Boise has indicted a Coeur d'Alene dentist for allegedly bilking Idaho's Medicaid program of more than \$100,000.

Darnell Carlos Dick, the former owner of Darnell C. Dick Family Dentistry and Northwest Family Dental, Inc., was charged with 78 counts of fraudulently billing Medicaid between 1997 and 2002. The indictment alleges that Dick billed the program for services which were not rendered, that he used false dates of service so that patients would be eligible for Medicaid, and that he billed fullmouth X-rays individually in order to receive more reimbursement from the program.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - Office of Inspector General, and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Medicaid Division.

An indictment is a means of charging a person with criminal activity, but the charge itself is not evidence. The person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.
